

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Director, FBI

February 13, 1951

SAC, Anchorage

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

PROPOSED PLAN FOR INTELLIGENCE COVERAGE
IN ALASKA IN THE EVENT OF INVASION
(STAY BEHIND AGENT PROGRAM)
(65-59264)

There is set out hereinafter a recapitulation of the Stay Behind Agent Program in this office, including information of an administrative nature, as well as data concerning agents who have been recommended and on whom closing reports have been submitted to the Bureau, together with certain problems encountered and the approach that is being made to this assignment.

Referral/Consult

There is transmitted herewith [redacted]

[redacted] It is suggested that the Bureau official handling this matter may desire to retain [redacted] and obtaining a better perspective of problems referred to in communications to and from Washington. It is noted that [redacted]

[redacted] Any designated change, of course, will be immediately brought to the Bureau's attention.

I. STAY BEHIND AGENTS

In considering individuals in the territory as potential Stay Behind Agents, accent has been placed on enlisting those who have as many of the following qualifications as could be found.

- 1 - Persons with good health, loyal to the United States and who intend to stay in the territory in case of war or invasion.
- 2 - Persons with an intimate knowledge of the territory or the locale in which they reside.
- 3 - Persons with a knowledge of short wave radios.
- 4 - Persons who own short wave radios and have "ham" licenses.
- 5 - Persons who are airplane pilots.
- 6 - Persons who own airplanes.
- 7 - Persons with the ability to survive in the back country of the territory of Alaska under the most severe conditions for protracted periods of time.

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- 8 - Persons who have had some experience in caching food, clothing, arms and ammunition, gasoline and other survival gear.
- 9 - Persons who have had experience mushing dog teams.
- 10 - Persons who have had experience with small boats and who know the waters of Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound and the coast of Alaska between Shelikof Strait and Prince Rupert.
- 11 - Persons who own or have access to cabins located in areas which necessarily will be utilized in this program. Referral/Consult
- 12 - Persons who live in and around [REDACTED]
- 13 - Persons who live on and can observe the highways of Alaska.
- 14 - Persons who live on and can observe the railroad.
- 15 - Persons who can assist in the operation and maintenance of a "life and supply line".

II. NUMBER OF STAY BEHIND AGENTS

As has been noted heretofore in correspondence with the Bureau, it is impossible to set a number of Stay Behind Agents who would be adequate in giving ample and comprehensive intelligence coverage during an invasion or occupation. However, the project of obtaining Stay Behind Agents will be continued until the Bureau is satisfied that the strategic areas and all items referred to in I above appear to be sufficiently covered.

There is being set out hereinafter the names and locations of persons who have been investigated, interviewed and recommended as Stay Behind Agents for the Bureau's ready reference:

[REDACTED] - 62-93600
[REDACTED] - 62-93639
[REDACTED] 62-93602
ALEXANDER BOLAM, Cooper's Landing - 62-93482
[REDACTED] 62-93646
[REDACTED] - 62-93636
JOE DANICH, Girdwood
[REDACTED] - 62-93483

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[redacted] - 62-93484
[redacted] - 62-93524
DAYTON ARB GILLIAND Cooner's Landing - 62-93498
[redacted] - 62-93634
[redacted] - 62-93597
[redacted] 77-31169
[redacted] - 62-93628
CARL KINZEL Seward - 62-93526
[redacted] Anchorage
CLARENCE RAY LANCASTER, Palmer - 62-93626
[redacted] - 62-93624
[redacted] - 62-93496
[redacted] 62-93495
[redacted] - 62-93647
FRANK BERTON MOORE Anchorage
[redacted] - 62-93621
LUTHER WILLIAM NOBY, Anchorage - 62-93565
DR. HOWARD GLENMORE ROMIG Anchorage
[redacted] - 62-93489
[redacted] - 62-93518
DR. JOSEPH HARRISON SHELTON, Seward - 62-93494
FOSTER RAYMOND SIMS, Palmer - 62-93603
[redacted] 62-93617
[redacted] - 62-93670
[redacted] - 62-93520
[redacted] Anchorage - 62-93568
[redacted] - 62-93643
[redacted] 77-44306
[redacted] 62-93644

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All other cases on which preliminary reports have been submitted and Bureau authority requested to conduct an interview, numbering 36 at this writing, have been assigned and Agents are presently on road trips attempting to locate and interview them.

Preliminary reports on 30 additional potential Stay Behind Agents have been submitted to the Bureau with a request for authority to interview them.

Cases on 31 individuals have been closed and the individuals themselves not recommended in view of information contained in the Bureau files, information received here from confidential informants or information contained in the Anchorage files.

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As is noted above, continued efforts will obtain additional potential Agents but in the interests of completing as many as possible in the least possible time with the limited personnel, this is being deferred until those concerning whom we have had reports by to interview have been contacted and closing reports submitted.

It is noted that we have been able to make several interviews in such towns in strategic areas as Seward, Fairbanks, Anchorage and Palmer. However, we are now finding that persons to be interviewed reside in isolated sections and must be sought out one by one. This is consuming a considerable amount of time. In a number of instances, such persons do not live in areas covered by the established airlines and it is necessary to contact bush pilots on a charter basis so that the Agents can be flown in, waited for and flown out. In some cases it will be necessary to wait until trappers, hunters or other persons in isolated sections come into Anchorage or Fairbanks, where we have resident agencies, to be interviewed. Such persons have no contact whatsoever with the outside world and Agent personnel would not be utilized efficiently if it were detailed to spend a protracted period of time hunting them up one at a time.

It is noted also that this office has been hampered in its efforts to make contacts and interviews in the country surrounding Glenn Allen, Tok Junction and Big Delta by the severe cold. In this area in the past several weeks the temperature has been between 50 and 60 degrees below zero, making travel extremely hazardous.

III. TRAINING

Referral/Consult

Comments concerning training in this program have been made in Bureau letter of November 29, 1950, Anchorage letter of December 5, 1950, and Anchorage letter of January 8, 1951. In the last letter mentioned it is noted that

It is requested that a copy of this be forwarded to the Anchorage Office if it appears to contain material that would help in any phase of this program.

Also with reference to training of the agents when this program reaches that stage, it is contemplated that all agents be fingerprinted and photographed in order that this identifying data will be available to the Bureau and to the administration of this program.

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IV. COMMUNICATIONS

Proposed method of handling radio communications was set out in Anchorage letter of December 18, 1950, and comments concerning a review of it by the radio experts in the FBI Laboratory were returned by Bureau letter of January 31, 1951. Inasmuch as it has been decided that the [redacted]

[redacted]

It is noted that almost all radio installations in the territory of Alaska will be in isolated and rugged terrain and it is suggested that possibly more than one man should be detailed to operate each radio. This suggestion is augmented by the fact that in almost every case the radio will need a power unit inasmuch as electricity will not be available. It is felt that more than one man will be needed to make such a radio installation mobile or, if it is stationary, to man it for protracted periods of time. Likewise, it is felt that two men would have a better opportunity for survival, both against an enemy and against the rigors of this climate if they were able to work together.

Referral/Consult

In addition to radio communication, it is possible that a ground to air radio contact may be set up. However, in view of the fact that [redacted] discussions with [redacted] cannot be had at this time.

Communication by courier has been considered but it is pointed out that such relays will be slow to the point of being almost useless. In addition to this, in the winter courier by snowshoes and dog teams will be impossible in many sections.

Referral/Consult

It is noted that considerable time and effort will be necessary to transport radios, power units and necessary accessories to each point of location. The summer is the only season which lends itself to this function. In view of this, it is suggested that the Bureau may desire to point out to [redacted] that almost a whole year will be lost if something is not done in this respect during the summer of 1951.

Likewise, it is noted that summer is the best and only practicable time to carry in materials, build caches and draft maps of the same. If this project is not started in 1951, it will almost necessarily have to be put off until 1952.

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V. CACHING

Inasmuch as considerable caching of supplies, arms, ammunition, gasoline, radios and other Arctic survival gear will have to be done, this office is in the process of compiling a dossier on this activity. It is noted that though contact has been made with the Army and Air Force here in the Territory, no written material on it has been found. Hence, we are compiling our information from various sources such as Fish and Wildlife Service; Arctic Survival Unit of the Army, particularly the Big Delta, Alaska, section; hunters, trappers and other individuals who have spent much time in the back country. This dossier will contemplate the following:

A - Essential items to be cached

- 1 - Radio parts and equipment
- 2 - Arms and ammunition and other weapons
- 3 - Clothing
- 4 - Medicines
- 5 - Foods
- 6 - Gear and supplies necessary for agents' cover such as traps, prospectors tools
- 7 - Photographic equipment
- 3 - Gear necessary for operation of agents such as field glasses, cameras where necessary, flashlight, signal panel, signal mirror and signal flags
- 9 - Snowshoes and skis where necessary
- 10 - Gasoline when and where necessary
- 11 - Explosives
- 12 - Camp gear

B - Places for caching

- 1 - In lakes, streams and rivers
- 2 - In caves
- 3 - In ground
- 4 - Stilted caches
- 5 - In trees
- 6 - In cabins

C - Manner of sealing or making weather tight the cached materials

- 1 - In sealed cans
- 2 - In water and moisture proof foil

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- 3 - In boxes where cache is not exposed to the elements
- 4 - Canvas or burlap where suitable and cache is not exposed to the elements

D - Mapping and marking caches

- 1 - Marking same on detailed maps
- 2 - Marking same by directions based on natural terrain barriers and bounds
- 3 - By personal knowledge of person making cache

E - Amount of caching materials

- 1 - Amounts necessary to sustain life of one person for an arbitrary term of 2 years

F - Choosing cache locations

- 1 - General knowledge of the Stay Behind Agent
- 2 - Aid of an expert examining the locale in which a cache is desired

G - Methods of transporting supplies to cache location

- 1 - Flying them in
- 2 - By railroad in certain instances
- 3 - By water
- 4 - By packing them in

H - The building of caches

Referral/Consult

- 1 - By the Stay Behind Agent himself
- 2 - By experts in this field

It is realized that quite possibly the responsibility for part or all of the caching function will be [redacted]

[redacted] However, this phase is being considered by this office inasmuch as it appears that time is of the essence and if the program in this respect is not accelerated and something done on it during the summer of 1951, it will have to be deferred until the summer of 1952 because of weather, terrain and other evident obstacles natural to this territory.

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As has been noted in the reports received by the Bureau in connection with interviews of those individuals who have been recommended as Stay Behind Agents, it is set out whether such individual is able to operate or owns an airplane. In this regard consideration has been given to the establishment of a lifeline for the Stay Behind Agents. It will be necessary, of course, to supply them from time to time with arms, ammunition, food, clothing and other gear necessary to the success of this endeavor and essential to the existence of the agents.

While an effort has been made to obtain any type of written material on such a project, none has been found. Hence, our sources thus far have been the Fish and Wildlife Service, which habitually flies over all of this country in bush type aircraft. We are also contacting the CAA here which has detailed maps of all of the country in which we are interested. In addition, we are also obtaining information from bush pilots, big game guides who own planes and prospectors who own planes in order that we may ultimately have a complete dossier on this field.

In this regard, it is probably contemplated that such [redacted] however, in view of the fact that [redacted] it is felt that such a study should be made even though it is discarded at a later date.

In connection with this project or if [redacted]
[redacted] necessary gasoline caches will have to be made
at various places in the territory inasmuch as the type of plane (C-47
aircraft) will not be able to fly sorties to all Stay Behind Agent locations
and return to its base without refueling.

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VII. CONFERENCES WITH [REDACTED]

Referral/Consult

Conferences have continued with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] but the situation there remains as the Bureau has been advised. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This matter will continue to receive priority attention
and the Bureau will be advised of all developments.